

From: StevenMueller

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Comment: July 13, 2004

Bureau of Land Management, Alaska Office
Att'n: Northeast NPR-A Planning Team
222 West Seventh Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599

Dear Planning Team,

001
Basic

Please do not proceed with the proposed amendment to the oil and gas leasing plan for the Northeast National Petroleum Reserve Environmental Impact Statement. Before seeking oil in the Northeast National Petroleum Reserve our nation needs to partake in conservation measures that reduce the use of petroleum. Using reserves at this time is not patriotic nor is it in the interest of future generations. I am especially concerned about the impact the Bureau of Land Management's proposal would have on the area around Teshekpuk Lake. It is unique and is an important wetlands in the Arctic needing protection from development.

002
Wetlands

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I urge you to adopt Alternative A, the "No Action" alternative, because it would maintain protection for the entire Teshekpuk Lake Surface Protection Area.

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Most of the northeastern reserve is already open to oil and gas companies for leasing. Information and analyses suggest significant negative impacts on fish and wildlife if more of this sensitive area is opened. Short-term supply of energy desires are risking a healthy future for coming generations. We can do better for our families and future generations.

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I was just in the Arctic June 30 through July 3 conducting biological research along the Dalton Hwy and discovered there is not basic biological information about this "well known" area that is actually not known well. It is not responsible to expand petroleum leases with our vague knowledge of the area.

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I urge you to choose Alternative A, the "No Action" alternative, to protect the reserve's irreplaceable wildlife, wilderness and subsistence values for future generations.

Sincerely,

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Attached: None